

UNION DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.
ADOPTED IN READING CONVENTION, JANUARY 8, 1862.

Whereas, The Democratic party, from the date of its organization, been in favor of the maintenance of the Union, and the preservation of the Constitution, and seeing in the present condition of the country the deplorable effects of a departure from its time-honored and conservative principles, and the triumph of sectionalism; and firmly believing that the Union and the Constitution can be preserved alone by the restoration of that power to power, we invite all true Union men throughout the land to unite with us in sustaining its organization and carrying out its principles. Therefore,

Resolved., That we reaffirm and endorse the political principles that from time to time have been put forth by the National Conventions of the Democratic party.

2. That we are unalterably attached to the Constitution, by which the Union of these States was formed and established; and that a faithful observance of its principles can alone continue the existence of the Union, and the permanent happiness of the people.

3. That the civil war has mainly resulted from the long continued, unwise, and fanatical agitation, in the North, of the question of domestic slavery, the consequent organization of a geographical party, guided by the sectional platforms adopted at Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Chicago, and the development there by of sectional hate and jealousy, producing (as had long been foreseen and predicted by us) its counterpart in the South of secession, disunion, and armed resistance to the Federal Government, and all who should have been forever bound together by fraternal bonds, thus bringing upon the whole country a calamity which we are now to meet as loyal citizens, striving for the adoption of that mode of settlement best calculated to again restore union and harmony.

4. That in rejecting all propositions likely to result in a satisfactory adjustment of the matters in dispute between the North and the South, and especially those measures which would have secured the border slave States to the Union, and a hearty co-operation on their part in all constitutional and legal measures to procure a return of the fugitive slaves, the administration, and the Republican party assumed a fearful responsibility, and acted in total disregard of the best interests of the whole country.

5. That if the party in power had shown the same desire to settle, by amicable adjustment, our internal dissensions before hostilities had actually commenced, that the Administration has recently exhibited to avoid a war with our ancient enemy, Great Britain, we confidently believe that peace and harmony would now reign throughout all our states.

6. That the maintenance of the Union upon the principles of the Federal Constitution should be the controlling object of all who profess loyalty to the Government—and in our judgment this purpose can only be accomplished by the ascendency of a Union party in the Southern States, which shall, by a counter revolution, displace those who control and direct the present rebellion. That no effort to create or sustain such a party can be successful which is not based upon a definite settlement of the questions at issue between the two sections; and we therefore demand that some measure of constitutional and constitutional guarantees, either initiated by act of Congress or through the medium of a National Convention.

7. That the Republican party has fully demonstrated its inability to conduct the Government through its present difficulties.

3. That we are utterly opposed to the twin heresies, Northern sectionalism and Southern secession, as inimical to the Constitution; and that freemen, as they value the boon of civil liberty and the peace of the country, should renounce both.

9. That in this national emergency the Democracy of Indiana, banishing all feeling of passion and resentment, will recollect only their duty to the whole country; that this war should not be waged in the spirit of conquest or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or institutions of the States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as these objects are attained, we will disband.

10. That we will sustain, with all our energy, a war for the maintenance of the Constitution, and of the integrity of the Union under the Constitution; but we are opposed to a war for the emancipation of the negroes, or the subjugation of the Southern States.

11. That the purposes avowed and advocated by the Northern disunionists, to liberate and arm the negro slaves, is unconstitutional, insulting to loyal citizens, a disgrace to the age, is calculated to retard the suppression of the rebellion and incur our national condemnation.

12. That for the defense of the right of habeas corpus by the authorities over us, and the seizure and imprisonment of the citizens of loyal States where the judiciary is in full operation, without warrant of law and without assigning any cause or giving to the party arrested any opportunity of defense, are flagrant violations of the Constitution and most alarming acts of usurpation of power, which should receive the stern rebuke of every lover of his country and of every man who prizes the security and blessings of life, liberty and property.

13. That liberty of speech and of the press are guaranteed to the people by the Constitution, and none but a usurper would deprive them of these rights; they are inestimable to the citizen and formidable to tyrants only. And the attempts which have been made since our present unfortunate troubles, to muzzle the press and stifle free discussion, are exercises of despotic power against which freedom loves and which can not be tolerated without converting freedom into slaves.

14. That the capture of Slidell and Mason, on board a neutral vessel, in the high seas, and so legal; or else in violation of such law, and so illegal. If the former, we lament that our nation has been humiliated by their supercilious, *under a threat*; if the latter, it was the duty of the Administration at once to have disavowed the act of their officer, and instead of incarceraing the captives in Fort Warren, to have immediately re-paired the wrong by placing them, as far as practicable, in the same condition in which that officer had found them. In either event, the action of the Administration was vacillating and indecisive, and degrading to the dignity of a great nation.

15. That the action of the Republican party, as manifested in the partisan character of all appointments of the Administration to civil office, and in holding many causes by the Republican members of Congress for the purpose of impressing upon the legislative action of that body the peculiar dogmas of that party, has filled every department, implicating the heads of those departments in a combination, if not an actual participation, in a system of corruption, and it which the friends of the Union have detected of these proper supplies, and our Government's earnest with bankruptcy, demands a thorough investigation into all our expenditures, both State and National, and that a speedy and marked example be made of all such "birds of prey," who, taking advantage of the necessities of our country, have fed and fattened upon public plunder.

Resolved. That the meritorious conduct of the Indian troops, in every battle field where victory has perched upon the national banner, has filled the people of this State with the highest gratitude to their gallant sons, and this we do heartily thank them, and send them throughout the country, and the heartfelt greetings of every Democrat for their further brilliant achievements in the coming contests for the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union.

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Augustus H. Abbott, Major.
John E. Barnard, Adjutant.
W. E. McClellan, Regimental Quartermaster.
Dr. Schisler, of Madison, Surgeon.
Samuel H. Charlton, Assistant Surgeon.
Captains—Philemon P. Baldwin, Samuel Russell, Wm. Davis, Hagerman Tripp, John R. B. Glasscock, James Moffett, George W. Brown, Charles R. Vanover, Augustus H. Abbott, Calvin Campbell.

SEVENTH REGIMENT—IN MARYLAND.

James Gavin, Colonel.
John F. Cheek, Lieut. Colonel.
Benjamin C. Shaw, Major.
John M. Blair, Adjutant.
Richard J. Jones, Quartermaster.

George W. Newell, Surgeon.

William Gilmore, Assistant Surgeon.

John Kiger, Chaplain.

Captains—Jessie Armstrong, Solomon Waterman, Scott Miller, Merit C. Welsh, Ira G. Grover, Samuel Lumperton, Wilson C. Lemert, Samuel J. Banta, John H. Ferry, Will C. Banta.

EIGHTH REGIMENT—IN MISSOURI.

Paul B. Bentin, Colonel.
David Shunk, Lieutenant Colonel.

Charles S. Parrish, Major.

Charles O. Howard, Adjutant.

Nathan Branson, Quartermaster.

James Ford, Surgeon.

Captains—Frederick S. Wysong, Thomas J. Brady, Joseph M. Thompson, Oliver H. P. Carey, Wm. R. Walls, Alexander J. Kenney, George W. Riley, John R. Polk, Hiram T. Vander-Venter, Frederick Tykle.

NINTH REGIMENT—IN MARYLAND.

Gideon C. Moody, Colonel.

Wm. H. Blake, Lieutenant Colonel.

John B. Milroy, Major.

Thomas J. Patten, Adjutant.

John G. Dyer, Quartermaster.

Mason G. Shriver, Surgeon.

John K. Buckstone, Assistant Surgeon.

Safety Layton, Chaplain.

Captains—Thomas Madden, William Copp, Douglas G. Risley, Amasa Johnson, Leonidas A. Cole, George H. Carter, Joshua Healey, Isaac C. P. Sumner, James Houghton, William P. Laselle.

TENTH REGIMENT—IN KENTUCKY.

Mahlon D. Manson, Colonel.

Wm. C. Kise, Lieutenant Colonel.

Abram O. Miller, Major.

Reuben C. Kise, Adjutant.

David N. Steel, Quartermaster.

Joseph S. Allen, Surgeon.

Captains—T. Dongenbury, Chaplain.

Robert N. Todd, Surgeon.

George A. Torbett, Assistant Surgeon.

Frederick A. Herring, Chaplain.

Captains—James G. Hastings, George W. Sitzmann, John H. D. Dray, John H. Klinander, W. F. Wood, Charles S. Finch, Charles Jones, Thomas J. Bethel, Victor C. Larkin, John W. Poole.

TWENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT—MISSOURI.

W. M. Wheately, Colonel.

Richard O'Neal, Lieutenant Colonel.

Henry Schrader, Adjutant.

John P. Roth, Quartermaster.

James F. Bell, Chaplain.

John E. Buckstone, Assistant Surgeon.

Safety Layton, Chaplain.

Captains—Thomas Madden, William Copp, Douglas G. Risley, Amasa Johnson, Leonidas A. Cole, George H. Carter, Joshua Healey, Isaac C. P. Sumner, James Houghton, William P. Laselle.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT—IN KENTUCKY.

George F. McGinnis, Colonel.

Wm. J. H. Ross, Lieutenant Colonel.

Isaac C. Elston, Major.

Daniel Macleay, Adjutant.

Joseph P. Pope, Quartermaster.

John C. Thompson, Surgeon.

Clay Brown, Assistant Surgeon.

Henry B. Hibben, Chaplain.

Captains—Nicholas R. Ruckle, Henry M. Carr, Jobe Smith, Edward T. Wallace, Wm. W. Darrell, David B. Culy, Jesse E. Hamill, Joseph H. Livesey, George Butler.

TWELFTH REGIMENT—IN MARYLAND.

Wm. H. Linck, Colonel.

George Humphrey, Lieutenant Colonel.

Henry Huber, Major.

Oscar Hinkle, Adjutant.

Milton R. Dixon, Quartermaster.

Wm. H. Loxam, Surgeon.

Nobie P. Howard, Assistant Surgeon.

Captains—Theodore G. Morris, Thomas R. Nest, James Bachman, Wm. O'Brien, Henry Huber, George Nelson, Arthur F. Reed, Thomas Doan, Alexander Buchanan, Joseph F. Draper.

THIRTEEN REGIMENT—IN MARYLAND.

Jeremiah C. Sullivan, Colonel.

Robert H. Foster, Lieutenant Colonel.

Cyrus Y. Dobbs, Major.

Charles H. Rose, Adjutant.

Alois D. Webb, Surgeon, Wm. C. Foster, Assistant Surgeon.

Captains—Abner L. Newland, Clinton, Davis, Cheshire, Harrington, Sayles, Wilcox, Johnson, Kirkpatrick, Ben H. Myers.

FOURTEEN REGIMENT—IN MARYLAND.

Nathan Kimball, Colonel.

John R. Mahan, Lieutenant Colonel.

William Harrow, Major.

John J. P. Blinn, Adjutant.

Thomas C. Martin, Quartermaster.

George C. Chapman, Surgeon.

George W. McCane, Assistant Surgeon.

Captains—Lucien A. Foote, Jonathan D. Wood, Lewis Brooks, Elijah H. C. Cavins, Nathaniel Willard, Jonathan D. Hagan, John Coons, John H. Martin, Philander R. Owen, James R. Kelly.

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George D. Wagner, Colonel.

Gustavus A. Wood, Lieutenant Colonel.

Alexander Fowler, Major.

S. F. Fry, Quartermaster.

Captains—Samuel Burns, Comptroller, Short, Miller, Templeton, McCutcheon, Rice, Fowler, Bennett.

SIXTEEN REGIMENT—MARYLAND.

Pleasant A. Hackleman, Colonel.

No further return at the Adjutant-General's office.

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Miller S. Hassell, Colonel.

John C. Moore, Major.

Edmund R. Kosletter, Adjutant.

Samuel E. Munford, Surgeon.

Captains—Wm. T. Jones, James Thompson, Silas W. Bowell, George Cumbe, Ethel M. Allen, George W. Stough, Henry Jordan, Jacob Vail, Jacob R. Stewart, Silas F. Rigby.

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Thomas Parsons, Colonel.

Henry D. Washburn, Lieutenant Colonel.

DeWitt C. Thomas, Major.

George S. Marshall, Adjutant.

John H. Popp, Quartermaster.

Samuel W. Peck, Surgeon.

George W. Hitchcock, Assistant Surgeon.

Captains—Jonathan H. Williams, William Simson, John W. Jones, Jesse L. Holz, Samuel W. Short, Peter C. Wood, Samuel D. Donaldson, John C. Jenks, James R. Bryant, Rinaldo R. Ritter.

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John A. Rockwood, Major.

John P. Wood, Adjutant.